

U.N. forces mandate extended

UNITED NATIONS, May 26 (R). — The Security Council today extended the mandate of the U.N. peace-keeping force on the Golan Heights, between the armies of Syria and Israel, until November 30. The vote on the resolution was 12 in favour, with none (zero) against and no abstentions. Benin, China and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya did not take part in the vote, in keeping with past practice.

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Latin America favours Palestinian homeland

TEL AVIV, May 26 (R). — Former Peruvian Premier Gen. Eduardo Mercado-Jarrin said here today he thought most Latin American countries favoured the establishment of a Palestinian homeland within the framework of a Middle East peace settlement. The retired general, who is on a six-day private visit to Israel, told reporters: "I believe most Latin American countries favour the establishment of a Palestinian state, either independent or federated with Jordan. It is essential for any Middle East settlement." Gen. Mercado said. He said Latin American nations supported the United Nations resolution 242.

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Fahd-Carter talks reveal major differences still to be resolved

WASHINGTON, May 26 (R). — U.S. officials today welcomed pledges from Saudi Arabia on oil and Middle East security but said major differences remained on how to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. Two days of talks between President Carter and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz ended yesterday with differences on several issues, including the Palestinian problem and future Middle East borders, they said.

Important achievements were Prince Fahd's assurance that his country would not use oil as a weapon in Middle East diplomacy and a statement supporting Israel's right to security as part of an eventual peace settlement. The differences were not spelled out, but one appeared to involve the legal status of a proposed Palestinian homeland, a concept publicly supported by Mr. Carter. The president, however, has not endorsed Arab demands for a separate Palestinian state and, while leaving the issue completely open, has suggested that a homeland could be a Jordanian entity.

U.S. alleges Cuba sent 50 military advisers to Marxist Ethiopia

WASHINGTON, May 25 (AFP). — The United States today warned Cuba against sending troops to Marxist-leaning Ethiopia. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter issued the warning at his daily press conference here.

Asked about a report that some 500 Cuban troops were currently in Ethiopia, Mr. Carter said that, according to U.S. intelligence reports, there were only 50 Cuban military advisers at present in the troubled Horn of Africa country. But he added: "If this report should show accurate, it would be a serious development."

He emphasized that the United States had already made it clear to Cuba that "the Cuban intervention in Africa is an activity that could impede the improvement of relations" between Washington and Havana. He added that the U.S. was prepared to discuss this issue with Cuban leaders but that no talks had taken place so far. He noted that President Fidel Castro had publicly stated that the Cuban intervention in Angola was a matter which

concerned Cuban and Angolan officials only. According to intelligence reports, Cuban military personnel in other countries number several hundred or less and they are apparently performing an advisory or training role. In London, America's United Nations envoy Andrew Young said today that the presence of Cubans in Ethiopia might be a good thing if they advised the country's leaders to halt the widespread killings there. He was speaking to journalists after talks with British Foreign Secretary David Owen. He said Ethiopia's leaders were "killing people right and left. If the Cubans advise against the killings, it might be a good thing. If they advise them to escalate the killings, that's very bad."

Mr. Young previously described Cuban presence in Angola as a "stabilising" factor following the abrupt departure of Portuguese technicians before and after independence. In a related development Cuban President Fidel Castro, in a TV interview shown yesterday night in New York, said: "We have sent diplomatic personnel to Ethiopia," but "there are no military advisers or such there."



AFTER MEETINGS - President Carter escorts Saudi Crown Prince Fahd from the White House following their meeting Wednesday. (AP wirephoto).

Carter spells out 3 basic conditions for Mideast settlement

WASHINGTON, May 26 (AFP). — President Jimmy Carter today spelled out what he sees as the three basic conditions to a Middle East settlement.

They are, he told a press conference: -- The Palestinians' right to a homeland and compensation for Palestinian losses. -- A total or partial withdrawal by Israel from occupied territories. -- Guarantees on secure frontiers.

But President Carter stressed: "We do not have a Middle East settlement plan." The U.S. president refused, in answer to a question, to say how he thought boundaries should be drawn up in the Golan region and in the Sinai peninsula. "It would not be appropriate for me to draw a line on the

map in the Golan Heights, Jerusalem or the Sinai," he said. He denied that his public statements on the Middle East had any effect on the Israeli elections, or that other remarks led to the failure of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) in Moscow in March.

On the question of U.S. forces in South Korea, President Carter said: "The time has come for a very careful, very orderly, withdrawal within four or five years of our ground troops." The United States, he said, had every confidence in South Korea's economic and military ability, and at the same time had given a determined and permanent undertaking to assure the country's defence.

On the Israeli election, President Carter said he hoped the probable next premier, Menachem Begin, would show "moderation." Without moderation, he said, there "could be no hope for peace." He added that some of Mr. Begin's statements had indicated moderation.

The Arabs, too, would have to behave in the same way. "Both sides will have to yield," he warned. On the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT-2), President Carter said there were still "substantial differences" between the Soviet and American positions.

The Geneva talks last week between U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko had been "very upbeat", however, he said. Nevertheless, neither side had made any substantial proposals, he said.

President Carter recalled the three basic points of agreement drawn up for the continuation of the SALT-2 talks. They were: -- The search for an agreement through to the year 1985, based on the Vladivostok accord in principle between President Gerald Ford and Soviet Party leader Leonid Brezhnev, with perhaps a lowering of the ceiling on stocks of Vectors. -- A draft accord on temporary solutions, including restrictions on the U.S. Cruise missile. -- A written undertaking to continue efforts towards a considerable reduction in arms levels.

Sadat, Arafat discuss Mideast peace efforts

CAIRO, May 26 (R). — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat discussed with President Anwar Sadat the latest efforts regarding the reconvening of Geneva peace conference on the Middle East, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

President Sadat also discussed the situation in south Lebanon with the Palestinian leader, MENA reported.

Mr. Arafat who flew in yesterday from Bahrain, earlier met Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi and discussed the Middle East situation following the victory of Mr. Menachem Begin's rightwing Likud Party in recent Israeli elections.

Mr. Arafat told a press conference in Bahrain he found no difference between the prospective Israeli premier Menachem Begin and Israel's former ruler. "All are a military terrorist group and are against the Arab nation and the Palestine people," Mr. Arafat told the press conference yesterday.

The Egyptian leaders shared the same views. President Sadat was quoted on Monday in the Egyptian newspapers as saying there was no basic difference between Mr. Begin and other Israeli leaders. He said, "these are mere superficial changes."

Asked after the press conference if the United States had agreed in Geneva to a moratorium on the Cruise missile, President Carter replied: "No".

Dayan-Begin deal causes Israeli political storm

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 26 (AFP). — A political storm raged in Israel today as a result of an agreement yesterday for Gen. Moshe Dayan to become foreign minister in a coalition government headed by the conservative Likud Party.

Gen. Dayan is considered a "hawk" like Likud chief Menachem Begin. Both men believe Israel should keep the West Bank which Israel has occupied since the six day war in 1967. The Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), which was engaged in preliminary negotiations to form a coalition with the Likud, favours returning the West Bank to the Arabs, and wanted one of its leaders to be foreign minister. DMC head Yigael Yadin complained that the choice of Gen. Dayan was "an extremely grave unilateral act" by the Likud, and said he had broken off negotiations with the Likud.

The DMC's moderate views would be heavily outweighed in a Begin-Dayan cabinet. Labour Party politicians were astonished by the defection of Gen. Dayan following their recent parliamentary election defeat by the Likud. It was "treason", charged Moshe Kargman, leader of the Labour minority in parliament. Amos Hadar, one of the Labour members of parliament who have supported Gen. Dayan, said he refused to back the general any longer. Other Dayan disciples said they were "surprised" at his decision.

Likud leaders were apparently surprised by the storm of criticism of the Dayan-Begin deal. They scheduled a meeting today at the bedside of Mr. Begin, who has been under observation in a Tel Aviv hospital since Monday after overworking during the election campaign. He suffered a heart attack two months ago.

Sharif Sharaf delivers message to Hafez Assad

AMMAN (JNA). — The Chief of the Royal Court, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to President Hafez Assad about the current Arab situation during a brief visit to Damascus Thursday.

The meeting with the Syrian president was attended by Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam, who later conferred with Sharif Abdul Hamid and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

The chief of the Royal Court told reporters on his return here that King Hussein's message is part of an exchange of viewpoints and analysis of developments in the region.

Kapanga area falls to Zairese forces

KINSHASA, May 26 (R). — The official Zaire news agency, Azap, said today that the last pocket of rebel resistance in the province's southeast Shaba province fell to government forces this morning.

The agency, in a despatch from the Shaba capital of Kolwezi, said "the Kapanga area, considered the last enemy foothold, fell into the hands of Zaire's armed forces this morning."

Government troops, supported by Moroccan military units, have been fighting rebels who crossed into Zaire from Angola at the start of March. Azap said Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko inspected troops at Kapanga early today and also reviewed army units at Sandona, taken by government forces yesterday.

The war in mineral-rich Shaba province lasted less than three months. Gen. Mobutu, whose forces suffered setbacks in the early stages, appealed for help against what he said was an invasion backed by Angola, Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Morocco sent 1,500 troops to fight on the government side and, according to diplomats in Kinshasa, helped to turn the tide in a war which was largely bloodless and fought in part with bows and arrows. Gen. Mobutu also received arms or other assistance from Egypt, France, Belgium, China, the United States and West Germany.

According to the government, the rebel forces were remnants of local gendarmes who, shortly after this country's independence from its former colonial ruler, Belgium, attempted to separate the province, then called Katanga.

Fighting began on March 8. The insurgents advanced eastward across a large part of Shaba province, following the line of the Benguela railway which links Shaba's minefields with the Angolan port of Lobito.

The tide of war turned last month with the arrival of the Moroccan forces and other outside help for the government, and the rebels retreated westward again. Although the war attracted widespread interest in the rest of Africa and the world because of its overtones of East-West conflict and the value of Shaba's mineral wealth, outsiders saw little of what was actually happening in the remote battle zones.

4-sided Arab committee mandate in Lebanon ends

BEIRUT, May 26 (AFP). — A four-sided Arab committee's mandate for overseeing the Palestinian presence in Lebanon ran out today leaving major differences unresolved.

According to concordant reports, Lebanese state authorities and the Palestinian resistance are still at odds over the defense of refugee camps, a key point in the 1969 Cairo agreement that the quadripartite committee was responsible for enforcing.

The resistance is pressing for the right to retain heavy weapons to defend the camps, while the state has been manoeuvring to scale down Palestinian arsenal.

Attempts to reach compromise on the issue which split the four-sided panel were continuing in Damascus between the Palestinians and Syria, whose forces make up the bulk of the 30,000-strong peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

The quadripartite group -- made up of representatives from Kuwait, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia -- was created in October, 1976 at the Arab League summit in Cairo that engineered an end to the 19-month civil war.

Its mandate was originally set for six months but was extended for two months -- until today -- at the request of Lebanon.

At a March meeting in the Egyptian capital, the Arab League Council also extended, for six months, the mandate of its peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

Differences over a Lebanese government revision of the 1969 Cairo agreement had divided the quadripartite committee, headed by Lebanese President Elias Sarkis.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt supported the Palestinian position while Syria backed the Lebanese government stance.

Moluccan gunmen free sick child, refuse food

BOVENSMILDE, Holland, May 26 (R). — South Moluccan gunmen freed a sick child today but still held 105 children hostage at a primary school here.

Dutch officials pleaded with the gunmen by telephone to end what they called the "inhuman captivity of innocent children." The gunmen soon after allowed two ambulance men to enter the school.

They carried Madeleine Witjes, 7, out on a stretcher. The girl, a small form buddled in brown blankets, was put into the ambulance and whisked away to hospital for treatment of what an official said was an internal disorder.

Madeline's release was the first break in the twin hostage drama in north Holland. But it seemed to be an isolated incident without wider significance.

Speaking to reporters in the Hague after the girl was set free, Prime Minister Joop den Uyl said "there is no prospect yet of a concrete solution."

Justice Minister Andreas van Agt made clear that telephone negotiations with the two groups of guerrillas, in the school and on a train where 55 hostages are being held (20 kms) from here, were tough, and could be protracted.

"We are dealing with people who are not easily rattled," he told reporters. "But we are not letting ourselves be intimidated. We are being cold-blooded too."

His comment on intimidation was an apparent reference to the refusal of both guerrilla groups to accept any food today -- no food has gone to the train for 48 hours now -- and putting hostages on display outside the train, hands tied and nooses around their necks.

These hostages were displayed yesterday and a fourth got the same treatment this morning for 15 minutes. Madeline was set free after the headmaster, Mr. Eef van Vliet, phoned the crisis centre at Assen, headquarters for officials dealing with sieges, and said that the girl was ill. He was asked to report her pulse and temperature. Doctors

at Assen then told him that she must go to hospital and the guerrillas agreed to release her. The first-grade pupil was the first hostage to go free since the initial sorting out of children and train passengers when the gunmen struck on Monday morning. In the first hour of the sieges a few people were allowed to leave both school and train.

A Justice Ministry spokeswoman at Assen said today that the guerrillas were getting angry about the information being given out about what was happening in the school. The gunmen on the train were getting edgy too. When an official in Assen rang the train to ask why they had refused the latest offer of food a gunman snarled "why should our hostages be given food? They don't need it."

Police decided that the food would be delivered whether the guerrillas wanted it or not. Reuters correspondent James Foley watched the tragicomic incident at De Punt, where the train is stranded.

The prime minister said after more crisis talks in the Hague "the situation is still extremely serious. It is a terrible situation but so long as nothing irreversible happens there remains hope for a solution."

Mr. van Agt said that it had been made absolutely clear to the guerrillas that if they wanted to keep the negotiations going they must let food in to the hostages.

A police spokesman at Bovenesmilde told reporters that he believed that the guerrillas in the school had refused food today because they did not want to become psychologically indebted to the authorities. Last night they allowed the children to get a meal of soup, meatballs, beans, potatoes, and yoghurt.

The local newspaper, the Drentse and Asser Courier, said today that four of the gunmen in the school were members of the South Moluccan community in the village as were two or three of the guerrillas on the train.

Cartons of food and other supplies were loaded onto a trolley on the level crossing -- soup, sandwiches, milk, apples, yoghurt, fruit juice, toilet rolls and sanitary towels. A board was fixed upright at the front of the trolley to keep the load in place. Two burly puffing policemen began to push the trolley down the track, hoping it would free-wheel the remaining 1km. to the train.

But it slowly ground to halt after covering only another 100 metres or so. The policemen disconsolately hauled it back to the level crossing where it was unloaded.

This was the fifth time out of six that an attempt to supply food to the train had failed. But the Red Cross chief at Assen, Dr. Rudolf Mantingh, told reporters "in view of the quantity delivered last time (on Tuesday) I am not too concerned about their condition."

He said there was plenty of water on the train but things like toilet rolls could be running short.

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CHILD HOSTAGE -- One of the school children held hostage by the South Moluccans in wheelbarrow was taken to hospital. (AP wirephoto).

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Giving Peres the boot

The rivalry between outgoing Israeli premier Yitzhak Rabin and his Defence Minister, Mr. Shimon Peres, has lent a light-hearted touch to the sombre proceedings of Israeli political life. And yet, as the scales tip once in favour of one man then the other, one can sense the fundamental issues underlying the change in the personal fortunes of each.

The latest episode in this unfolding drama came when Mr. Rabin surreptitiously slipped into his office the other day and quietly but firmly gave Mr. Peres the boot, ousting him from the position of acting prime minister, which the latter had automatically assumed he could keep until it was time to hand over power to the new government.

Mr. Rabin, although lacking the much vaunted public appeal of his arch rival is nevertheless noted as a brilliant tactician and strategist.

Finding himself at the head of a Labour Party rocked by scandals and economic difficulties, and having himself fallen prey to the merciless sword of the prosecutor for illegal bank accounts held by himself and his wife, Mr. Rabin quietly stepped aside and handed the job of leading the Labour Party in the general elections to his erstwhile opponent, Mr. Peres, while he himself ran as an ordinary candidate in the elections. This won him much sympathy and significantly took him off the hot spot at a crucial time.

Mr. Peres, who jauntily stepped into the prime minister's shoes obviously did not know what he was in for.

He ran into the full force of President Carter's prodding to steer Israel into a more realistic course on the issue of Middle East peace.

Yet unlike Mr. Rabin, who had portrayed himself as Israel's best hope for peace, Mr. Peres, true to his former affiliations with the hard-line Rafi group within the Labour Party, abandoned the traditional Labour line and tried to compete with Mr. Begin as a hawk (by declaring that the Jordan River constitutes part of Israel's "defensible frontiers", for instance.)

This was unfortunate as he could not outdo a super-hawk like Mr. Begin in his natural element, while this posture clashed with his other half-hearted and conflicting attempts to sound dovish.

Labour lost 19 seats in the elections, far more than had been predicted, and Mr. Peres' ability to lead the party was severely undermined.

Mr. Rabin was not selling out the party to best his arch-rival; he no doubt saw stepping down as an imperative he could not ignore -- until the elections were over.

Now Mr. Rabin has a chance to mould the Labour Party into an efficient opposition and to capitalise on Mr. Begin's tendency to put his foot into his mouth. He can show the public what an old hand at handling Israeli diplomacy can do as head of a caretaker cabinet.

Whatever the outcome, this turn of events illustrates one central point; it was not pressure from the Carter administration that undermined Mr. Peres' position but his own mishandling of the situation as a novice in international diplomacy. This round clearly goes to Rabin.

After Ulster's strike the future is still grey

Ulster is picking up the pieces after the unsuccessful general strike supported by Protestant extremists led by the Rev. Ian Paisley. The two communities are as polarised as they have ever been.

By David Clark

BELFAST (Gemin) — Early in the morning on the ninth day of the Ulster Loyalist's strike I was driving along the Donegal Road in Belfast. Some way ahead of me shouts rang out and a lorry screeched to a halt. The driver had been attacked by a gunman -- luckily he was only injured by flying glass and the security forces soon had the situation under control.

But the incident summarised what so many people had found unacceptable about the strike this year compared with the earlier 1974 Ulster Workers' Council Strike. That brought down the shaky power-sharing Executive which governed Northern Ireland.

On our way down Donegal Road we had passed Sandy Row, a grim loyalist street which was one of the few areas that did support the strike. Large gangs of men lounged on the street corner -- although the police were keeping a distant eye on the "pickets" their attitude was distinctly menacing.

The original plan of the strike called for such pickets to barricade the main roads and stop the entire traffic flow in Belfast. Police had got hold of a copy of these plans just before the strike started and were able to break up the pickets before they could become effective.

But although the pickets could not block the street, they could strike fear into the hearts of pedestrians who attempted to pass them. It's one thing to confront a properly-organised picket for a trade union dispute, quite another when the lines are organised by men with fearful reputations for violence.

It was this atmosphere of intimidation -- the quiet menace which stalked the Protestant backstreets -- that symbolised the whole affair. And the way the majority of people refused to be intimidated and instead got on with their daily lives was the brightest sign of hope to come out of it all.

The strike was originally called by the United Unionists Action Council, a 61-member body whose delegates came in the main from the Loyalist paramilitary forces. After a week in which seven people had died in Northern Ireland, the Action Council gave the British government an ultimatum -- they had one week in which to crack down harder on terrorism and to restore Protestant majority rule or the province would come to a standstill.

A political spokesman for the strike was the Rev. Ian Paisley,

a Westminster M.P. and a symbol of the most extreme Protestant fundamentalism that makes Irish politics so hard to comprehend. But the military muscle was provided by the Ulster Defence Association and its leader the loyalist hard man Andy Tyrrie.

Within the week's grace Roy Mason, the Northern Ireland Secretary, called in an extra 3,000 soldiers to support the 14,000 British soldiers already on duty in the province. He also called up the entire Ulster Defence Regiment -- the local part-time soldiers who are part of the British Army -- and put the Royal Ulster Constabulary on full alert. Many of the soldiers called in were experts in running power stations and other public services.

On the first day of the strike, the province was badly hit, but not nearly so badly as the organisers expected. The police cleared pickets who were attempting to block main roads and although many firms reported that workers were staying home, production still continued in most of the main factories.

The strike's major success was to close the port of Larne, which handles approximately 25 per cent of the province's trade and is also part of Mr. Paisley's constituency.

But the major problem was that of intimidation -- the first day of the strike police received 400 calls of complaint about intimidation. Reporters came across cases of shopkeepers being "requested" to close by phony men of the UDA, of bulky call threats to businessmen and of car park meetings outside factories where workers were threatened by the paramilitaries.

One young man I spoke to at his house just off the Loyalist Shankill Road had set off for work at Harland and Wolff's shipyard, but had been turned back by a threatening picket at the bottom of his road. In 1974 he had not gone on strike. In 1977 he dare not go to work.

Yet in the face of incidents like these, most people ignored the strike call and got to work. The strike organisers claimed that it was just getting started, but the evidence of the next few days showed that more and more people were going to work. The crucial point came at the weekend when the workers at the province's largest power station, Ballylumford, decided they would not support the strike.

Despite immense lobbying and threats from the Action Council, the Ballylumford workers stayed put, hundreds of extra policemen were drafted

into the town to protect the power men from the bully boys of the UDA. If they had agreed to support the strike, the whole of Northern Ireland would have been brought to a standstill within days.

By the beginning of the second week, when it was obvious the strike was a failure, the strains began to tell in the ranks of the UDA itself. From the beginning the strike had been officially deplored by most of the main-stream Unionist politicians. But now a number of men in the UDA came forward to say that they disagreed with it too.

Matters were not helped when, in addition to the over one thousand claims of intimidation logged by the police, the son of one of the paramilitary spokesmen was blown up by a bomb in a loyalist area. Finally as some farmers showed their support with tractor parades, but more and more workers went back to their jobs, tractor took on a new and more horrifying form.

In an attempt to stop people going to work, some loyalist extremists turned their attention to the bus service. They bombed one bus, injured the driver of another and finally shot dead a bus driver in his cab. Public revulsion was intense and the busmen withdrew their services until the man's funeral.

But it was obvious that the strike could achieve nothing without widespread terror -- and the majority of the people were outraged to see that the strike did not succeed.

As Northern Ireland returns to its own version of normality, its people are counting the cost and debating what the next moves will be. For it certainly has been costly; figures issued by the government suggest that it has so far at least £35 million.

As for the future, it is now even more unclear than it has been in the past. Roy Mason has demonstrated that the British government is determined to govern the province in the face of threats, but has also demonstrated just how desperately vulnerable it is to the

feelings of 400 power workers. He has used the previously unwilling RUC to break up a protestant strike and they have shown their ability to do so.

But the political vacuum remained. The Rev. Ian Paisley stated out by saying that he would resign from parliament and withdraw from politics if the strike did not succeed. Now he says he will stay on since his own constituents support him.

And although the majority of main-stream unionism condemned the strike, they are still many miles away from main-stream Catholic thinking. Any fresh political initiative will have to depend on what Paisley does since his grass roots support is still extremely strong. The strike has shaken him, but he is far too strong to be broken by it.

Perhaps most important is the series of investigations now being made by the police to establish whether Paisley was involved in a plan to use the strike as a basis for some kind of take-over of state power. If it can be established, he may well be prosecuted on serious charges and that would inevitably lead to yet another political crisis.

Meantime, Northern Ireland is picking up the pieces and returning to work. It would be nice to say that the future now looks bright. But the grim fact is that the future looks even grayer than it did before the strike. The two communities are as polarised as they've ever been and shootings, bombings and violence continue. Unemployment remains at an all time high, bad housing, segregated schools and the thorny question of relations with Southern Ireland continue to bedevil attempts at a negotiated settlement.

Roy Mason has come out of it well and has earned the grudging respect of even a few hard-line republicans. The big question now is whether he can seize the chance provided by the collapse of the strike to bring about some new initiative for Northern Ireland politics. He will probably never have such a fertile opportunity again.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As I sit here eating my leban (I gave up shawarma months ago after reading about the adventures at Third Circle, Jabal Amman) and watching the soccer game on Channel 6 between Manchester United and Liverpool (needless to say, this was not mentioned as a change of programme in the "Jordan Times Daily Guide", my Bible if you know what I mean), I have decided that this is the right time to share my views on your very fine local publication, an Arab newspaper with a very definite flavour.

First, I must commend you on your knack for catching all the news that is fit to be printed. I can't tell you how many times I have enjoyed "Amman Marketplace". Like, I mean, it really is the greatest! Keep up the good work!

Secondly, I must express my disappointment in the fact that you seem to have discontinued the "Page Five Feature Photo". I know that spot should be used by the "Daily Guide", but traditions die hard in this part of the world, and I guess I have been here too long. Anyway, I want you to know that one of my favourite feature photos was the one captioned "Jordanian seamstresses at work". However, I was disappointed even more because you didn't mention how I could locate them. I have this pile of mending and some new curtains that need to be done.

May I carry this thought even further by saying I spent days compiling a list of great feature photo ideas which I simply must share with you, even in part. The two photos you ran on the broken water pipe in Jabal Hussein gave me one of the ideas.

1. A picture of a well-dressed man in Amman, to be captioned with something catchy like "A well-dressed man in Jordan."
2. A picture of a large pothole on one of the streets in Weidat camp, captioned quite appropriately "A pothole on a street in Weidat (Whidat) camp." How do you like that for real paz-zazz!
3. Another brainstorm I had was for a photograph of a cat crossing a street in Jabal Amman (Third Circle maybe?), with an interesting caption - "Cat crosses street in Amman, Jordan."
4. A photo of a garbage can (one of the nice, new, sparkling additions to the street scene near my house would do fine, suitably captioned - "A new garbage can on a street in Amman, Jordan.")
5. A picture of a woman washing clothes, picturesquely captioned - "A woman enjoys her daily chores in Jordan." I can't begin to tell you how excited I've become just putting these ideas down on paper for you and your learned colleagues to read.

My list goes on and on but I want to be sure and mention a few other points in this letter. Like the layout of your front page -- it really has come a long way. The ears at the top of the page are true eye-catchers. Where else would I get such valuable information, in such a prominent place, as "Mondale arrives in Yugoslavia"? You know, I probably would have missed it, had it been anywhere else in the paper and then I wouldn't have had anything to talk to my husband about over a candle lit dinner. Not only do you inform me, you enhance those quiet and sometimes awkward moments with family and friends alike by providing me with tidbits of worthwhile information which I can interject at just the right time! I'm sure you understand that a housewife like myself seldom has the opportunity to acquire such info, even via the grapevine.

Also, I think that it is wonderful that you have an editorial everyday. The open letters to people and governments and agencies have been most encouraging in that I am beginning to understand that I am not the only nut in Amman. It surprises me to see how your editorial writer commits so few fallacies of reasoning being that he has to open his mind to us so often. The two-part editorials are the greatest because they tax every ounce of brain power I can muster to remember the first part. (You see, I wrap the chicken bones and leftovers, which I want to get rid of but don't want the neighbour cats to get into, in yesterday's paper. I hope you can appreciate this extra special use I have for the paper.) No kidding... I read every edition of your paper from "cover-to-cover", so to speak, every single day except Monday of course.

As for the great column "Absurdity's Loophole", I must tell you that I find it stimulating (morbid today) simply because I miss the point half the time... maybe a little more often. Where could I ever hope to find mental exercise in the form of the absurd in such an accessible form as a daily newspaper?

I hope that I have not bent your imagination to such a point that I have worn out my welcome to your post bag. Before closing, I think that I should let you know that I am planning to run a survey among my friends and enemies to get their ideas on "The Jordan Times". I, for one, truly enjoy the opportunity I have here in Jordan of being one of your 10,000 readers.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Maria Arnold
 P. O. Box 5312
 Amman, Jordan

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Four Jordanian dailies commented in their Thursday editorials on the meaning of Army Day and outlined the progress achieved by Jordan since its independence under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

AL RA'I, said that on Army Day Jordan reassessed its achievements and came out satisfied that its role in the Arab World has been increasing and that it is the cornerstone of the Arab national structure. The Jordanian citizen was satisfied with what he saw during the parade. His confidence in his leaders and his country increased.

However, he shall be looking for more strength and development to enable him to face the enemy.

AL DUSTOUR, said that the military parade which took place Wednesday was the symbol of a Jordan which continues to constitute a positive element in the Arab World. The parade was an expression of Jordan's ideology, residing in moderation and not capitulation, its belief in peace and its refusal of disgrace.

Jordan also is an example of swift progress achieved by the armed forces during the past 25 years, the paper said. Those who have attended the parade have felt that Jordan has succeeded in building strong armed forces, despite its limited resources and despite the many dangers surrounding

it, it has become a shield defending the Arab nation against the aggressor.

AL SHA'B, said that the citizens joy which surfaced on the occasion of Army Day represented their feeling of pride in Jordan's successful economic and social experiment. The country, the paper added, is great by its national will and ambition, the awareness of its leaders and their adherence to Arab history and national values.

The progress achieved during the past 25 years should be attributed to the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein. This leadership is known for its logic, realism and courage in its efforts to achieve Jordan's national aspirations.

It suffices Jordan to be proud that past events in the Arab World have proved that the policy has always been on the right path.

AL AKHBAR, said that since its independence, Jordan has worked to remain so and build its economic and military strength. Independence is a long process, the paper added, in which a national identity is outlined and delineated. It is a long path at the end of which Jerusalem shall be restored and with it every occupied Arab land.

It is the building process of our independent strength and capability. It is the past and, more so, the future, the paper concluded.

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Subject of lecture at Haya Arts Centre Beidha: Near Petra, but 7,000 years older

AMMAN (J.T.). — The archaeological site of Beidha near Petra — ranking alongside Jericho as one of only two sites dating back to 7000 B.C. to be excavated in the region — is to come under the microscopic eye of British archaeologist Diana Kirkbride at the Haya Arts Centre on Saturday evening at 7.00 p.m.

When Ms. Kirkbride was excavating the Roman road in Petra with the Department of Antiquities several years ago, a bedouin took her to see some flints scattered in a wadi just outside Petra. That pile of stones turned out to be the famous site of Beidha, an ancient pre-pottery village.

She has since been back seven times to work on the site.

When the 1967 war broke out, "Sitt Diana", as she was soon to become known in Jordan, went to Baghdad to become Director of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq. Now retired, she has returned to Jordan 10 years later to investigate the possibility of completing her work at Beidha. One of her chief difficulties is finding the funds to finance her ambitious project.

"All I need is for five companies in Amman to donate JD 1,000 each, or for 10 to donate JD 500, and I can finish what I have started." To do so would take her two seasons, one to work on the pre-pottery period and another to work on

the earlier layers of habitation beneath.

Over the past 17 years "Sitt Diana" has dug all over Jordan — at Jericho, Jarash, Petra, Azraq and Wadi Rum. It was on her very first dig — on the Jericho mound — that she met her husband, the world's foremost paleo-botanist, Hans Helbaek of Denmark.

Ms. Kirkbride is a research associate of the Institute of Archaeology in London and a Wain Wright fellow of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of Oxford.

Her lecture, organised in cooperation with the Friends of Archaeology here, will include a slide show. The public is most cordially invited to hear this woman, who is practically a legend in Jordan.



Her Highness Princess Basma hands out a certificate at the graduation ceremony of students of Martyr Wasfi Al Tal Centre Thursday. (JNA photo).

M.E. air safety to come under scrutiny here

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

The first Middle East Air Safety Conference will take place in Amman from Oct. 20-22 this year, and will assemble all Arab airlines and representatives of national civil aviation organisations.

The aim of the conference is to bring together Arab air officials with international experts for discussions and an exchange of views on how the fast-paced expansion of the Arab airline industries can be carried out while maintaining high safety standards. The conference will also be open to some representatives of international companies involved in the air safety field.

According to Mr. Najeeb Halaby, Chairman and part owner of ArabAir Services Corporation Ltd., the organisers and promoters of the conference, the three-day meeting will focus on three aspects of the Middle East air industry: — maintaining safety standards while introducing wide-

body jets into the civilian air fleets of the Middle East countries (including Iran);

— assuring safety standards in the "airways", which concerns flight controllers and communications systems; and

— maintaining efficient operations in the airline industry through organisational and management training systems.

International experts in the field will talk about safety procedures, operations, maintenance and management techniques, according to Mr. Halaby, who is a former Chairman of Pan American World Airways and also former Administrator of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

The conference is seen as the first of what will become an annual event to take place in a different country every year. This year's conference is sponsored by His Majesty King Hussein, and will be hosted by Alta and Jordan's Civil Aviation Department. It will be officially announced at next week's Paris International Air Show.



The burial of Sheikh Abdullah Ghosheh proceeds at the royal cemetery Thursday. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zeid, Prince Hassan, Premier Mudar Badran and top officials attended the funeral of the late chief justice. (JNA photo).



Arab military experts agree to establish advanced war industry

CAIRO, May 26 (R). — Arab military experts meeting here have agreed to establish an advanced war industry, the Arab League announced today.

A statement by the 21-member league's Military Committee said the experts had studied the coordination of military industries in the Arab World during two days of meetings.

"The committee has completed recommendations which will be referred to countries who agreed to contribute in these industries," the statement said. "These countries will study the proposals, then issue the necessary executive decisions."

The committee did not name the countries in agreement, or specify the industries involved. Gen. Mohammed Ali Fahmi, the Egyptian Chief of Staff

who chaired the meetings, said the main objective was to coordinate efforts and resources to establish an advanced war industry in the Arab World.

Gen. Fahmi, the league's Assistant Secretary General for Military Affairs, said the creation of the new industries should not contradict with the Arab Military Industries Organisation (AMIO), which comprises Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

At a meeting in Alexandria last week, AMIO decided to produce anti-tank missiles, helicopters and jeeps.

The Arab League had proposed shortly before the creation of AMIO in 1975 to build an Arab sophisticated weapons industry to lessen Arab dependence on foreign countries for arms purchases.

It followed Egyptian complaints that the Soviet Union, its only arms supplier for two decades, had stopped its flow of arms since the 1973 October war with Israel.

Joint projects to come under discussion

AMMAN (JNA). — A Jordanian-Syrian committee looking into joint projects will begin its meeting here Saturday.

Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani said the committee's two-day meeting will debate investment programmes and financial plans concerning overland transport, maritime navigation, industrial free zones and a number of joint industrial ventures.

The results of the meeting will be referred to the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee, when it meets shortly in Amman.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CABLES CONTINUE TO POUR IN

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received a new batch of cables of good wishes for Independence and Army Day.

These arrived from Omani ruler Sultan Qabus; Lebanese President Elias Sarkis; Kuwait Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah; Arab League Secretary General Mahmoud Riad; King Baudouin of Belgium; and Malaysian ruler Sultan Abdul Halim Muadzam.

Cables also flowed in from the presidents of Austria, Finland, Cyprus, Afghanistan, Guinea, Mexico, Portugal, Sierra Leone and the Philippines.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talbouni received the North Yemeni Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Mohammad Abdul Qudus, here Thursday.

* AMMAN. — The Department of Antiquities, in cooperation with the American Centre of Oriental Research, is undertaking excavations at the Bab Al Drah area in Karak. The archaeological site dates back to the Bronze Age.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Communications Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh received Austria's non-resident ambassador here Thursday.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif Thursday decided to open a waqf directorate in the northern ghor to deal with all affairs related to Islamic activity and supervision of mosques in that region.

* MADRID. — Jordan's delegate has been elected deputy chairman at the World Tourist Organisation's General Assembly now meeting here. Jordao is also one of the 90 members of the Executive Council of the organisation.

* AMMAN. — The 1,800-line automatic telephone exchange at Salt will formally open on May 30 as part of Balqa Governorate's celebrations for King Hussein's silver jubilee.



A singer performs at the party held by the Hashemite Broadcasting Service for Independence and Army Day Thursday. (JNA photo).

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International Wheat Council forecasts large wheat crop

LONDON, May 26 (AFP). — Another large world wheat crop is a prospect this year, the International Wheat Council forecast in their latest survey, with production tentatively put at between 390 and 410 million metric tons — the second highest on record.

The council points out that the limits of the range, which compares with the peak figure of 417 million tons last year, should not be interpreted as representing the absolute lower or upper limits of likely production. Most of the major northern hemisphere harvests are still some months away and seeding has not been completed in southern hemisphere countries.

Meanwhile, as of mid-May, it would appear that about 187 million tons have been booked or covered by various long-term agreements for export from the main exporting countries (excluding the Soviet Union) during the crop year 1977/78, compared with 17.3 million tons at the corresponding period a year ago.

Export prices continue to decline, in some cases to below \$100 per ton, the lowest since March 1973.

As for individual producers in the United States production

for 1977 is expected to be within a range of 50.3 to 55.8 million tons, against 58.4 million tons last year.

In Canada, the crop is expected to be much smaller than last season's record 23.5 million tons, although the situation has improved considerably following widespread rains.

Production in the European Economic Community (EEC) is put at 40 to 41 million tons compared with 35.2 million tons in 1976 and the 1974 record of 45.3 million tons, with improved yields expected to outweigh an estimated reduction of seven to eight per cent in the total sown area.

Unfavourable weather is reported to have affected the winter wheat in Greece, and total production is now expected to be less than the 2.3 million tons of 1976, but in Yugoslavia, prospects appear "excellent".

Eastern Europe's winter crops are reported to be mostly "good", with excellent conditions reported from East Germany.

In the Soviet Union, heavy rainfall delayed spring sowing, but warm and dry weather has since developed. By mid-May 61.0 million hectares (against 63.9 million last year) had been

planted with grains and pulses (excluding maize). It has been estimated that the winter wheat crop could reach a record 50 million tons, assuming average yields. Winter wheat in recent years accounted for just under half of the total output.

China's drought eased during the second half of April, but more rain is needed. Meanwhile, widespread unseasonal rains delayed the harvesting of the "rabli" (spring harvested) crop in India.

In a special survey of China's grain economy the International Wheat Council says that the biggest potential for increased cereal imports by China might appear to lie more in the feed grains sector than in wheat for direct human consumption.

Wheat imports in the 1976/77 crop year (July/June) are currently estimated at 3.8 million tons, below the long-term average (1961/62 to 1975/76) of 4.6 million tons. As to the future, while it is difficult to estimate on a year-to-year basis, since figures depend on many economic and political considerations, the council consider it likely that annual imports will be between three and six million tons. Shipments to China were unusually low in 1975/76, and until November 1976, it

seemed they might be small in 1976/77.

However, China has since purchased 5.6 million tons for shipment from February 1977 to January 1978.

Exports of rice and imports of wheat appear to be linked, that is sales of rice provide some of the hard currency necessary to purchase wheat on world markets, the council point out.

Possibilities of further increases in agricultural output no doubt exist, especially through genetic improvement and technological progress.

The council estimate that total cereal production has risen on average three per cent a year since 1949, to reach a record 278 million tons in 1976. Wheat production tripled (14 to 43 million tons) during this period, with a particularly rapid expansion since 1966. Rice output doubled between 1949 and 1970, (49 to 98 million tons) but has grown less rapidly in the last few years.

Prospects for grain production in 1977 may have been affected by severe drought during the winter the council believe, although recent rains may have been beneficial to crops, especially wheat.

U.S. food prices may be up 6% from 1976

WASHINGTON, May 26 (AFP). — Food prices are rising faster than expected in the United States and, even with good crops, they could be six per cent up on last year, the Department of Agriculture said.

The department put much of the blame on high cost imported coffee, cocoa, fish products and other items from abroad.

"With continued upwards price pressure from imported foods, it now seems likely that

the annual increase in food prices in 1977, even with good weather (for crops), may average near the upper end of the four to six per cent forecast range."

With bad weather, the food price rise might be as much as seven per cent. Last year's total increase was 3.1 per cent.

Food prices are a major component of the retail price index which rose 3.2 per cent in the first four months of this year, following a rise of 4.8 per cent for the whole of last year.

Kidnappers of Fiat-France executive break silence

PARIS, May 26 (R). — The kidnapers of top Fiat car company executive Luchino Revelli-Beaumont have broken a week-long silence, sending a photograph of their victim and a brief message to three Paris newspapers.

The photograph, published today on the front page of Le Matin De Paris, L'Aurore and France-Soir, showed a frail-looking Signor Revelli-Beaumont seated writing at a table, watched closely by a black-hooded figure.

The managing director of Fiat-France was dressed, as in a previous photo published last week, in a white vest and dark trousers. He had a greying growth of beard.

Underneath the photo was a typewritten message: "We, the thousands of exploited people,

we are putting our exploiters on trial."

Signor Revelli-Beaumont was seized by four armed men outside his flat in the elegant Rue De La Pompe in western Paris on April 13 and driven away in a car.

Mystery surrounded the kidnapers' identity, although a three-million-franc (\$330,000) ransom demand was received from a group calling itself "The Committee for the Defence of Italian Workers in France" which police said they had never heard of.

In the envelope containing the photograph sent to France-Soir a leaflet from the "Committee for Revolutionary Socialist Justice."

The leaflet talked of "punishing the guilty," whom it identified as "Fiat's Executive Committee."

Recruitment of Kenyans by Saudi Arabia raises controversy on slavery

NAIROBI, May 26 (R). — Two Kenyan politicians have defended the recruitment of Kenyans to work in Saudi Arabia and denied allegations they were the victims of "modern slavery".

Mr. Said Hemed Said and Mr. Sharif Nassir, both Members of Parliament from the Mombasa area, said the 500 Kenyans employed would be paid between 2,000 and 5,000 shillings (£150 to £350) a month they would also receive free medical treatment and insurance.

COTU said the recruitment was being carried out by two Mombasa Members of Parliament and a Nairobi tycoon.

Mr. Mwaruwa said: "We know the Arabs have been recruiting Pakistanis for several decades to provide cheap labour and now it is the turn of the Kenyans. These Kenyans will be nothing but slaves."

The slavery protest was made earlier this week by Mr. Abdallah Mwaruwa, leader of the National East African Seamen's Union. The Central Organisation Od Traj Unions (COTU) appealed to Vice President Daniel Arap Moi to study the recruitment of the Kenyans to work on construction sites in Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Said and Mr. Nassir said in a statement: "Our object is not to make money but to help the employment situation in Kenya, enhance government policy of cementing relations with friendly Arab countries and bring Kenya much-needed foreign exchange as those recruited will send back part of their salaries to their homes."

British exports to Arab lands rise in value

LONDON, May 26 (R). — The value of British exports to the Middle East and North African markets increased by almost six-fold between 1970 (£51 million) and last year (£289 million) Trade Under-Secretary Michael Meacher told Parliament yesterday.

He said that the value of British exports to oil-exporting countries rose almost seven times during the same period — 1970 (£466 million) and 1976 (£3,143 million).

Australia opens to Concorde

PARIS, May 26 (AFP). — Melbourne's airport is open to Concorde which the Victoria State premier expects to land there this year.

Premier Robert Hamner, here on a three-day official trade promotion visit, made this forecast about the supersonic aircraft yesterday shortly after a one-hour meeting with Prime Minister Raymond Barra.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

Country	Rate
U.K. sterling	569.0
U.S. dollar	330.0
German mark	140.3
French franc	66.9
Swiss franc	131.7
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.4
Japanese yen	119.3
Saudi riyal	93.3
Lebanese pound	107.5
Syrian pound	81.0
Iraqi dinar	947.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,146.0
Egyptian pound	460.0
Libyan dinar	760.0
U.A.E. dirham	84.6

Ship building slump continues into this year's first quarter

LONDON, May 26 (AFP). — The world ship building slump continued in the first quarter of this year with the order book shrinking to 51.41 million tons gross.

The Lloyd's Register ship building returns revealed Wednesday.

Ships commenced during the quarter grossed about 1 million tons with 18 per cent (1.23 million tons) less launchings, which were the lowest since September 1972. Completions fell 21 per cent (1.83 million tons) to 6.94 million tons.

All major ship building countries continue to show substantial reductions in their order books with the exception of Poland, which has maintained steady growth for 18 months, Lloyd's Register points out.

Oil tankers comprised 17.1 million tons of the total order book, down 2.7 million tons (13.6 per cent) on the previous period. Bulk carriers accounted for 16.3 million tons, 1.09 million tons (or 6.2 per cent) less, while general cargo orders were down just 89,000 tons to 10.28 million tons.

The overall total of 3.85 million tons (7.1 per cent) is less than the preceding quarter and equivalent to just 38.5 per cent of the record figure of 133.4 million tons attained in March 1974.

The number of ships of more than 100,000 tons gross on order has fallen from 161 in March last year to a current figure of 63, Japan's share of this total is 16 (compared with 21 in December quarter and 65 a year ago). Spain has ten against 11 and 14, and Sweden has seven against nine and 15.

Ships under construction totalled 26.45 million tons, 1.76 million (6.2 per cent) less than in the previous three months. Underlining the serious implications for the immediate future of the industry is the fact that deliveries (6.9 million tons) greatly exceeded the new order intake (4.0 million tons) during the quarter, while nearly 96 per cent of the total "book" is scheduled for delivery by the end of 1978.

Japan maintains its clear lead at the top of the shipbuilding league with a "book" of 16.37 million tons (down 1.83 million tons, 10 per cent). It is followed, as last quarter, by the United States (4.64 million tons, down 70,000 tons, 1.5 per cent). Spain, with 3.55 million tons (down 236,000 tons, 6.2 per cent) moved into third place.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* WASHINGTON, May 26 (AFP). — The U.S. plans to use the international "special action" programme for least developed countries (LDCs) as a negotiating weapon at the Paris dialogue, authoritative U.S. sources said here. The idea of the special action programme was agreed at this month's Western Economic Summit in London, a figure of \$1,000 million being advanced. But the sources said its application would depend on a successful outcome to the dialogue — the Conference on International Economic Co-operation (CIEC) now entering its final phase.

* NEW YORK, May 26 (AFP). — A one cent stamp of the 1868 Benjamin Franklin "blue" series was auctioned off here yesterday for \$90,000. The blue bears an extremely light x-shaped impression, embossed on many late 1860's stickers to distinguish them from counterfeits. Only two stamps of its kind are known to exist.

* WASHINGTON, May 26 (AFP). — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has announced a \$5.46 million (4.71 million SDRs) credit line to Mauritania for 12 months to shore up the West African nation's balance of payments through 1977. An IMF statement yesterday said the credit would enable Mauritania to hold its deficit "within tolerable limits".

* OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 26 (R). — Over 42,000 Arabs from the occupied territories were employed in Israel daily at the beginning of this month, the government Labour Exchange announced here today. The exchange said they worked in four main sectors: industry, construction, general services and agriculture.

* LONDON, May 26 (AFP). — Copper prices fell back sharply on the London metal exchange this morning, following the trend in the U.S. markets overnight, and in turn affected sentiment elsewhere. The overwhelming vote by U.S. aluminium workers in favour of a new three-year wage contract, tended to underline the general expectancy that the U.S. copper miners will show similar approval when they come to decide on a similar agreement in a month's time.

* WARSAW, May 26 (AFP). — Four men and four women shut themselves in a chapel of Saint Martin Church here today to start a hunger strike in protest against the continued imprisonment of five workers who took part in riots against food price increases in June last year.

* PARIS, May 26 (AFP). — Air France recorded a loss of 240 million francs (about \$50 million) last year against the previous year's loss of 420 million francs (about \$90 million) and hopes to become "healthy and competitive" by 1979, Air France President Pierre Giraudet said here.

Tsetse Fly scourge is a main factor holding back food production in Central Africa

NAIROBI (Gemini) — A laboratory breakthrough in the fight against the tsetse fly, carrier of a disease which kills humans and animals across four and a half million square miles of tropical Africa, could signal the beginning of the end of this scourge.

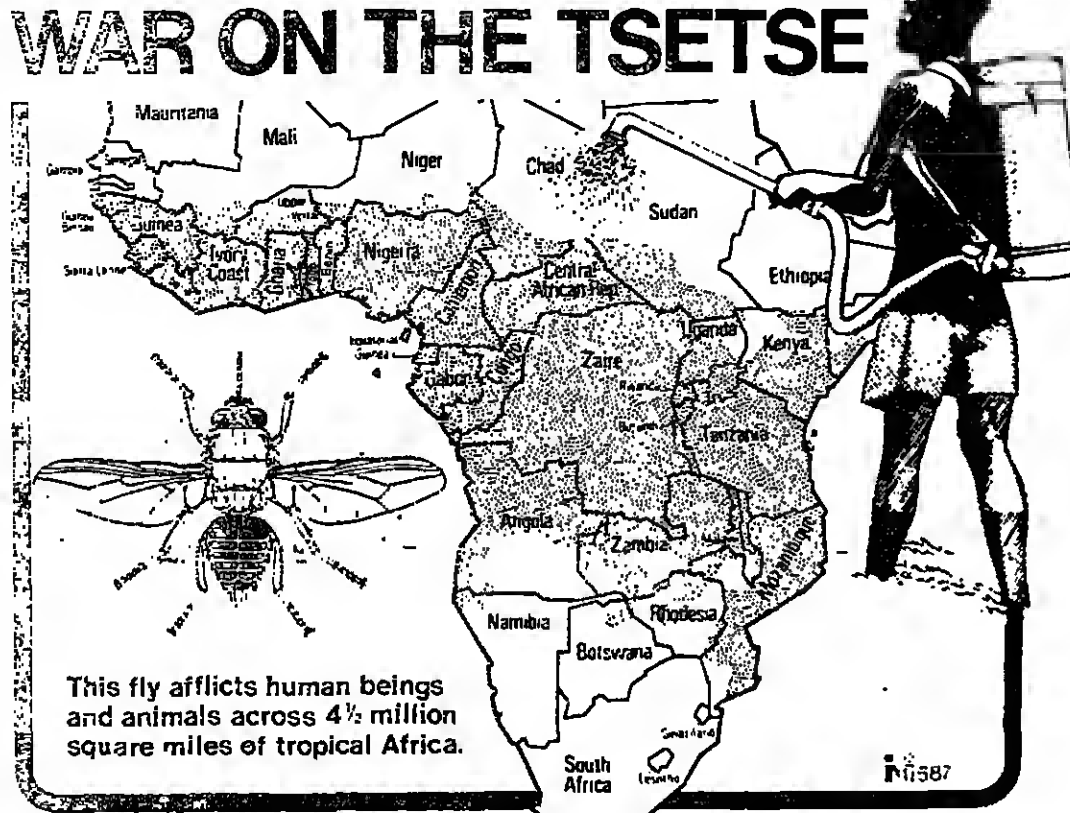
The disease the tsetse fly carries is called trypanosomiasis, which in domestic animals and game is known as nagana, and in human beings sleeping sickness. No effective control or cure has yet been found after 70 years of research.

The war against the tsetse fly has not been won, but the end is in sight as the result of remarkable work in a Nairobi laboratory.

A group of young international scientists have developed for the first time a laboratory method of pre-pagating and maintaining in cell culture an infective form of African trypanosome.

This raises hopes of developing effective control measures against the disease.

So far little publicity has been given to this achievement. But its results could be far-reaching in the battle for food production in Africa. Large fertile areas of the continent are paralysed by the presence of the tsetse scourge. Countless millions of cattle and game, which in some areas mix with cattle, are affected. It is estimated that some 35 million



This fly afflicts human beings and animals across 4½ million square miles of tropical Africa.

people are living at risk of catching the dreaded sleeping sickness, with upwards of 10 million cases coming up every year.

The research team is working at the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Disease (ILRAD) in Nairobi. The team is led by a young British scientist, Dr. John Doyle, of Glasgow University, and Japanese American Dr. Hiruyuki Hirumi.

ILRAD was established a year ago. It is one of nine international centres supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, which derives strong support from the World Bank in Washington.

Powerful support and encouragement comes from 30 donor agencies and countries, including the Rockefeller Foundation, Britain, the United States, West Germany and other countries in Western Europe.

The main aim of the group is to increase food production in Third World countries, many of which are well behind their safety targets. It has long been realised that the tsetse fly scourge on animals and man is one of the main factors holding back food production. Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Zaire and many other countries are seriously affected.

Animals die horrible deaths from nagana. In human beings sleeping sickness is a wasting disease which eventually affects the brain.

The breakthrough was explained by American Dr. James B. Henson, the Director of the ILRAD laboratory. He said that despite numerous attempts over the last 70 years it has not previously been found possible to cultivate the single cell organism called trypanosome. It is a blood parasite transmitted mainly by the tsetse fly.

"The inability to grow the blood stream trypanosomes has been one of the obstacles in the way of preventing a faster advance in the control of the disease in man and animals", he said.

Dr. Henson said "Dr. Hirumi and his colleagues are now able to culture the infective blood stream forms of trypanosome in the laboratory. The parasites grow successfully in the newly developed system and retain infectivity for mammalian hosts for 240 days after being cultured."

Present controls are not very effective and extremely expensive, and there is no prophylactic treatment, which is why the disease is chronic throughout Africa.

Many scientists are working away on the disease, but are, as it were, in a laboratory on the spot.

"We are at a great advantage in having access to people suffering from sleeping sickness and to animals affected, and we can also find the fly", said Dr. Henson.

The work of the ILRAD team is soon to be given to the world through a paper to be published in Science. They believe that the more people working on the problem the nearer they will get to finding an effective and cheap control for the disease.

Dr. Hirumi and Dr. Doyle run a team of about 13 international scientists. They are not by any means hampered by money problems, for their laboratory's budget is \$5 million which may soon be increased to \$6 or \$7 million.

Dr. Henson said: "It is remarkable that the team should have come up with this important breakthrough in a year, working under very temporary conditions."

Dr. Doyle is one of Britain's leading experts in veterinary medicine, while Dr. Hirumi did most of his studies in cell biological research in Japan, moving later to the United States.

LOST DOG

LOST: Small white poodle

(five kilograms)

if any information call French Embassy

Telephone 41273.

WANTED SECRETARY

American Embassy, Amman, requires an administrator/secretary. U.S. citizen, short-hand desirable, minimum typing speed 50 wpm; salary negotiable over JD 4,000. Qualified applicants should call Mr. Smith, 44371, ext. 264.

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Handwritten Arabic text: هوزا من التصل

APOLOGY

The Jordan Times apologises to its readers for the non-appearance of Your Daily Horoscope due to the fact that our stocks have run out. We hope to be able to continue publishing it as soon as possible.

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



DENMARK

Emile Bencke "There's nothing in it yet — we're just out for a practice stroll."

RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISM

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3rd Circle Jabal Amman supply Chinese food and special family dinner... only JD 1.250 including one soup one dish plain rice or bread.

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

GUNSMOKE: THE SCAVENGER

A gang of Red Indians attacks townspeople and creates havoc in their midst.

KOJAK

BY SILENCE BETRAYED

Kojak investigates murder case involving smuggling and dockmen.

OUT AND ABOUT

Captain's Cabin The fashionable restaurant for you. Grandis Bank Street. Tel. 2187. A.Q.A.R. Open for lunch & dinner.

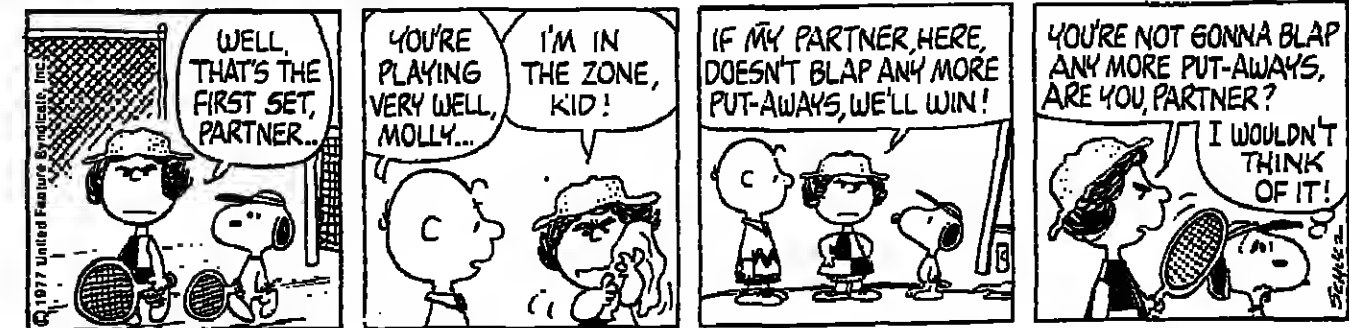
CHINESE RESTAURANT

Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luweibdeh. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte.

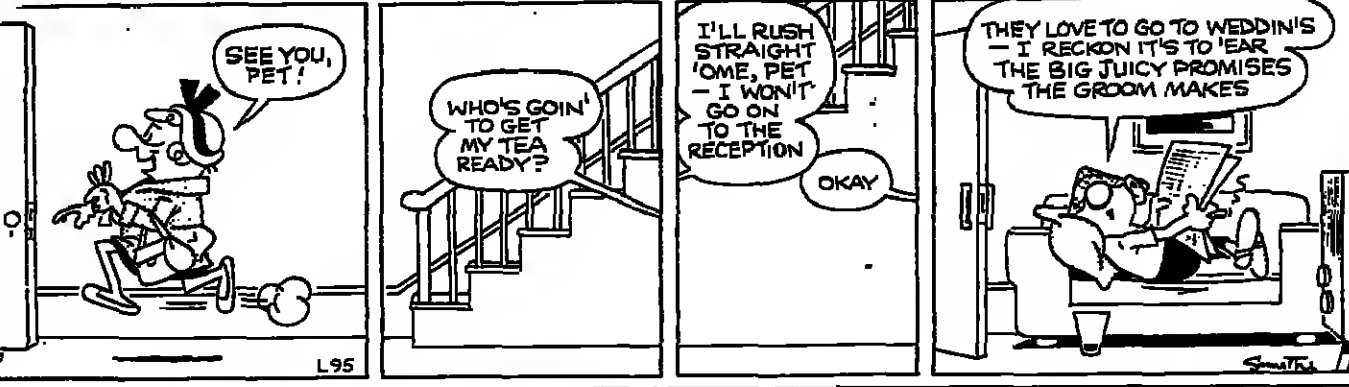
THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ahlyah School or CMS. Tel. 28908. Open daily from noon to 3.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. to midnight.

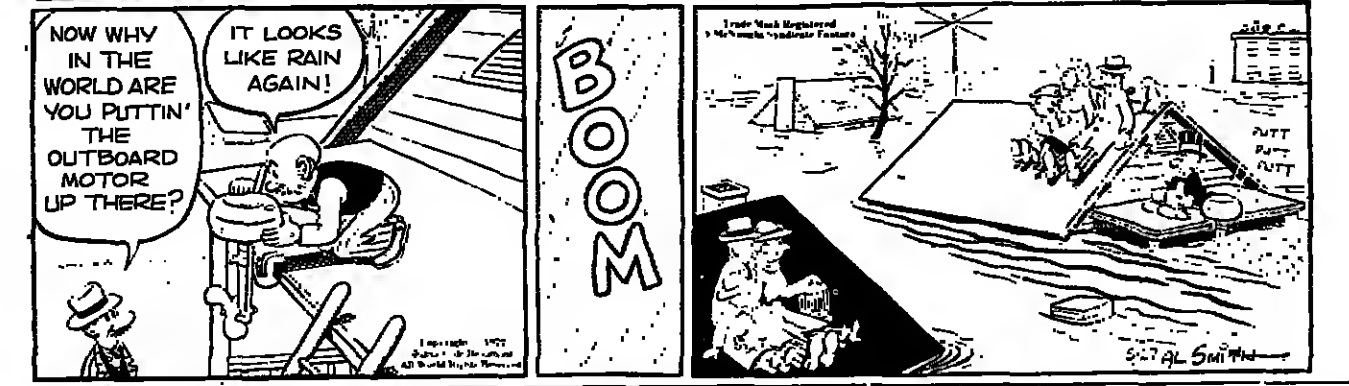
PEANUTS



ANDY GAPP



MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



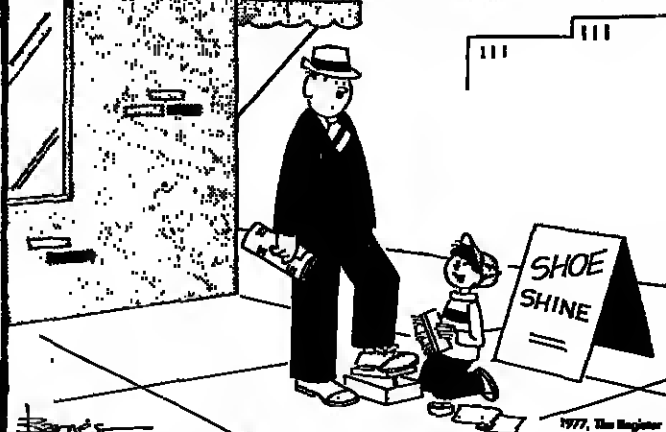
LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



DENMARK Erik Bencke

"I'm just doing my yogo exercises."

THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"Be sure to watch channel three tonight of nine o'clock. I'm sponsoring a TV special."

WORLD RECORD

Relics of the oldest canal in the world, dated by archaeologists to 5000 B.C., were discovered near Mandali, Iraq early in 1968.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

Table with columns for JORDAN TELEVISION, BBC RADIO, AMMAN AIRPORT, and USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS. It lists various news programs, radio shows, and contact numbers for different services.

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH: ♠ 53, ♥ 107, ♦ Q7, ♣ KQJ9553. WEST: ♠ QJ872, ♥ Q853, ♦ 943, ♣ 6. EAST: ♠ K96, ♥ A62, ♦ 10652, ♣ A104.

SOUTH: ♠ A104, ♥ KJ94, ♦ AKJ8, ♣ 72.

The bidding: North East South West 3 ♠ Pass 3NT Pass Pass Pass. Opening lead: Seven of ♠.

out declarer's last spade stopper. He chose the queen of spades for this purpose, suggesting that his entry was in the higher-ranking suit, i.e., hearts.

Declarer won the ace of spades and knocked out the ace of clubs, and East dutifully shifted to a low heart. Declarer was now at the crossroads.

Had declarer needed a

trick from the heart suit, his play would be purely a guess. If East was leading from the queen of hearts, declarer would have to play the jack; if East was underleading the ace, the king would be the winning play.

But the heart trick had no bearing on the fate of the contract—declarer had enough tricks without the heart suit. What was certain

was that if West gained the lead with a heart, he would be able to cash two spade tricks to beat the game. Therefore, declarer's goal is to prevent West from gain-

ing the lead. If declarer inserts the jack, West will get on lead if he holds either the ace or queen. However, if declarer

goes up with the king, West will be able to win only if he has the ace of hearts. Obviously, therefore, the play of the king stands twice the chance of bringing in the contract as that of the jack, and indeed it would work here.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumble puzzle grid with words: WARFE, SONOW, PORDYS, BLOMIE. Includes a cartoon illustration of a rickshaw puller and a sign that says 'SHOE SHINE'.

ANSWER BY: [Grid of circles for the answer].

Yesterday's Jumbles: KETCH ACRID CAMPER SALOON. Answer: Why the turtle turned lawyer was exhausted—HE HAD A HARD CASE.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a list of words: STEW, RAGE, ERA, DANGLE, RISE, ANIMATE, COME, PAL, SOS, AVON, ELY, EMS, LENS.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 28869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

UAE president proposes OAPEC meet to adopt a "unified Arab stand"

BEIRUT, May 26 (R). — United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan, in an interview published here today, proposed a meeting of Arab oil-producing states to adopt a "unified Arab stand".

He told the weekly magazine Al Hawadess that he had discussed with King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia the "current trends in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in the light of the desire to preserve OPEC and maintain its effective role in the service of member states..."

"Abu Dhabi is convinced of Saudi Arabia's justifications and will always support its stand because it serves the general economic interest," he said.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE have opted for a single five per cent increase in oil prices this year, while the remaining 11 OPEC members decided on a 15 per cent raise in two stages.

However, Indonesia has announced it was freezing the second planned increase of five per cent in an attempt to unify

oil prices and resolve the split over the two-tier system.

Sheikh Zayed said the Saudi Arabian and UAE stand on the question of oil prices was not "directed to serve U.S. interests. It is primarily aimed at serving the economies of West Europe, Japan and developing countries rather than benefiting the U.S."

He added: "The current situation calls for reviewing the recent OPEC resolutions (adopted in Vienna last December) in the light of the results achieved."

"It is important that a unified Arab stand be taken, and accordingly the UAE proposes convening the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) before a scheduled meeting of OPEC (in Stockholm on July 12)."

He said this would help reach a unified Arab stand at OPEC's meeting where the Arabs formed a majority both as regards membership and production.

Asked whether the proposed meeting was connected with the victory of the extreme right-wing Likud bloc in the latest Israeli general elections, Sheikh Zayed said:

"I am not pessimistic about the outcome of the Israeli elections. I believe that the more intransigent the enemy is the stronger Arab cohesion becomes..."

"Undoubtedly, the Arab meeting we are advocating will take everything into consideration, but the basic issue behind the call is the question of oil prices. As to the diplomatic role, this will be discussed at higher levels," he added.

He concluded by saying: "The Arabs fought four wars over a period of a quarter of a century against the so-called moderates. Are the new intransigent leaders more extreme than those self-styled moderates?"

U.S. State Department denies Haaretz report

WASHINGTON, May 26 (R). — The State Department yesterday denied an Israeli report that the United States had drawn up a two-stage plan for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands as part of a Middle East peace settlement.

"No such plan has been formulated," spokesman Hodding Carter said in response to a reporter's question.

The Israeli newspaper Haaretz had carried an uncorroborated report saying the plan also called for establishing networks of early warning stations, demilitarised zones and possibly neutral troops in the occupied West Bank.

"We're still talking with the parties," the spokesman said. "We have said the terms for a Middle East settlement must be negotiated by the parties."

Kahane to drum up support for Begin in U.S.

TEL AVIV, May 26 (R). — Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the militant Jewish Defence League (JDL), has said he will go to the United States next week to organise demonstrations in support of Mr. Menachem Begin, expected to head the next Israeli government.

Rabbi Kahane, who failed to obtain a Knesset mandate in last week's general elections here, recently made a number of attempts to establish unauthorised settlements in the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Begin promised last week that his future government would encourage large-scale Jewish settlement on the West Bank, unlike the outgoing Labour cabinet which foiled some attempts to settle in the Arab-inhabited areas of the region.

Yugoslavia honours Tito on his 85th birthday

BELGRADE, May 26 (R). — Yugoslav President Tito has received a nation's homage on his 85th birthday and seems determined to retain his control over the country despite his age.

Looking physically fit and mentally very sharp, Marshal Tito last night attended an emotional mass rally to celebrate his birthday -- and his 40th anniversary as Communist Party leader.

The rally at the Partizan Stadium, packed by a capacity crowd of about 60,000, was named Tito's Road. It highlighted his role as a titan on the Yugoslav stage and also as a world statesman.

The president has become a legend in his own time, and a post-Tito era seems unthinkable to most Yugoslavs, although they know he must inevitably retire or die.

No successor to him has emerged, and there is nobody who could command such prestige.

The themes of the celebrations were Tito's role as a young revolutionary, partisan commander, leader of the occupied movement, creator of Yugoslavia's unorthodox socialist system, and adroit guarantor of his country's independence -- especially from the neighbouring Soviet bloc.

The crowd, roaring their applause, spontaneously joined in singing an old resistance song from the days of World War II, when Tito's partisan forces battled against Nazi occupation of the country.

"Tito, we swear we will not leave the path you have shown us," the crowd sang, while some 4,000 gymnasts, dancers, school children and soldiers paid homage on the pitch.

Marshal Tito, just awarded the title of Hero of Yugoslavia for the third time, appeared to have recovered completely from a liver ailment which troubled him last year.

Since then he has held talks with a dozen foreign heads of state and political leaders, without showing traces of fatigue.

As if to show he is in good shape, the president has worked through a taxing schedule in recent months while maintaining his firm grip on all major party and international issues.

The rally was the climax of celebrations which started in January throughout Yugoslavia. Scores of books devoted to

his military feats and distinct communist ideology were published, accompanied by lengthy television documentaries and thousands of newspaper articles.

In a country divided into six republics and two autonomous provinces, speaking three major languages, President Tito is often jokingly referred to as one of the few real Yugoslavs.

The president's illness last year revived speculation about who might succeed him -- a matter of keen interest both to the West and the Kremlin.

But his closest aides and long-standing comrades -- Mr. Edvard Kardelj and Mr. Vladimir Bakarić -- are both ailing and many diplomats and officials here believe Marshal Tito could stay the pace in top office longer than they could.

Mr. Stane Dolanc, the thrusting 52-year-old secretary of the party's Executive Committee, has been given an increasingly important role in running the party's day-to-day affairs.

But President Tito, who still goes bear-hunting in the mountains, has refused to designate an heir apparent -- although he has designed a complex constitutional arrangement providing for a rotating state presidency when he dies or retires.



STILL GOING STRONG -- Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito cuts his birthday cake during a reception in Belgrade Wednesday, when his closest friends congratulated him on his 85th birthday and 40 years at the head of the Communist Party. (AP wirephoto).

Nixon tells Frost he will never forgive the authors of the "trash"

WASHINGTON, May 26 (R). — Former President Richard Nixon says bitterly that three days after his wife Pat read a report about her alleged drinking problem, she suffered a stroke.

While Mr. Nixon said he never read the book himself, he confirmed its account of an emotional White House scene on the eve of his resignation, when a tearful Mr. Nixon and then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger knelt to pray.

He also said he later telephoned Dr. Kissinger and pleaded with him not to reveal the embarrassing scene, a request that obviously was not granted.

The interview covered a number of other topics, including President Ford's controversial pardon of Mr. Nixon for any crimes committed in the Watergate affair.

The former president also dealt with the case of Vice-President Spiro Agnew, who was forced to resign in October, 1973, after a kickback scheme involving payments from contractors in the State of Maryland was uncovered by the Justice Department.

Mr. Nixon defended his vice-president but said he had to be pragmatic after Mr. Henry Petersen, Head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, told him the case against Mr. Agnew was very strong.

In his discussions of the pardon issue, Mr. Nixon told Mr. Frost that he rejected last-ditch efforts by his two closest aides to get a presidential pardon.

He said he wanted to avoid inflaming the passions of the country by what he said would have looked like "the ultimate cover-up."

The two men, John Ehrlichman and Bob Haldemann, this week appeal, in the U.S. Supreme Court, to have their prison terms in the Watergate cover-up case overturned.

The former president said he had wanted to help his two aides pay their huge legal fees, but both rejected his offer.

During their trial in 1974, Mr. Nixon was quoted as saying he could have made \$200,000

to \$300,000 available to them. He told Frost that \$100,000 could have come from his close friend, Mr. Charles Rebozo.

Mr. Rebozo had been holding that amount as a campaign contribution from the late multi-millionaire Howard Hughes, money that was later returned to Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Nixon's account of how he regarded possible use of the Hughes money to help Mr. Haldemann and Mr. Ehrlichman conflicts with what Mr. Rebozo told the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973.

Mr. Rebozo insisted then that the former president told him it would have been wrong to use the money for legal help since the donation was for campaign purposes.

Last night's T.V. broadcast contained interviews, for which Mr. Nixon stands to earn up to \$1 million.

Mr. Frost has the rights to a fifth show, pulled from some 24 hours of recording sessions conducted in California, but that will probably be shown later this year, an aide said.

Says he will form centre-left cabinet

Joop den Uyl wins huge personal endorsement in Dutch elections

THE HAGUE, May 26 (R). — Dutch Prime Minister Joop den Uyl is expected to form a new centre-left government after a huge personal endorsement in the general elections which brought his Labour Party record gains.

Despite an unprecedented increase of 10 seats, the highest gain by one party in an election in half a century, the Labour leader spoke sombrely about the future.

Looking haggard and depressed after three days and nights fighting to save the lives of two groups of hostages held by South Moluccan gunmen, he warned in a television interview that negotiations on forming a new cabinet would be tough.

"A difficult time lies ahead of us with great problems," he said. Despite its gains, the Labour Party is still 23 seats short of a parliamentary majority and will have to seek allies.

Political observers predicted the most likely outcome of what could still be months of bargaining will be a partnership between Labour, the Christian Democrats, who won 49 seats, and Democrats' 65, the only small party to gain ground.

One of the trickiest issues on which the three parties will have to agree is abortion. The Labour Party is committed to reform Holland's widely ignored anti-abortion laws, while the Christian Democrats, led by Justice Minister Andreas van Agt, a devout Catholic oppose liberalisation.

The third biggest party, the rightwing Liberals, also gained votes on an election day which virtually annihilated a proliferation of small parties on the extreme right and left. Notable losers were the Communists, whose normally faithful supporters deserted them in droves for the Labour Party. Labour figures said the Communists were reaping the consequences of a recent return to the Soviet orbit after years of prickly isolation.

The Radical Party, a junior partner in Mr. den Uyl's last

coalition also went into a catastrophic slide. Their probable departure into opposition will reduce pressure on the next government to halt nuclear power programmes in Holland.

Mr. den Uyl described the results as the highest single shift in Dutch political life in 30 years.

Leading Christian Democrats were disappointed by their failure of match Labour's surge ahead, which covered not only socialist city strongholds such as Amsterdam and Rotterdam but also small towns and country districts.

The Labour premier said the results would have to be reflected in the balance of the next government, but Christian Democrats said they expected hard bargaining over the programme for a new cabinet.

"We will not be going to negotiate cap in hand," said Fr-

ans Andriessen, a leading spokesman for the Christian Democrats.

Mr. van Agt, the minister for handling the hostage affair, was too preoccupied with his task to comment publicly on the results.

Rightwing Christian Democrats hinted they wanted to keep the door open to a centre-right coalition with the Liberals, a partnership that would command only a paper-thin majority in parliament.

All parties welcomed the high turnout of 67.5 per cent, seen as a response to an appeal by Mr. van Uyl not to be put off voting by the South Moluccans' violence.

The new parliament, which will meet on June 8, will have 11 parties. But the small parties will control only 20 seats between them, compared to 38 in the last parliament.

Portugal's Socialists lose coalition backing

LISBON, May 26 (R). — Portugal's two major opposition parties last night threatened the survival of the minority Socialist government by ruling out any possibility of further support.

The centrist Popular Democrats (PSD) and the conservative Centre Democrat (CDS) Party have 115 deputies in the 263-seat National Assembly compared with 105 Socialist deputies.

The announcement at the end of a joint meeting to discuss national recuperation means the Socialists can no longer rely on support from parties to their right if a vote of confidence is called.

The Socialists, elected with 35 per cent of the vote just over a year ago, rejected invitations from the PSD and CDS to attend the "meeting aimed at finding a common platform to combat Portugal's economic and social problems."

The Communists, the country's fourth strongest party, were not invited to the meeting. Prime Minister Dr. Mario Soares has said economic recovery can only be achieved through agreement with the Communist-dominated trade unions, but has steadfastly refused to consider an alliance with left or right.

In a separate development, about 40 people were hurt, several seriously, when police moved in yesterday to evacuate workers occupying a farm near Mora in the south, it was reported today.

Four policemen were among the injured.

More than 1,000 agricultural workers gathered to oppose the police at the farm -- one of several collective farms set up after the revolution, which are

to be returned to their former owners.

Under land reform laws, farmers dispossessed of their property after the revolution may reclaim between 50 and 200 hectares, depending on the quality of the soil.

Trade unions and production brigades argue that the measures will deprive collective farmers of the best land, thereby making them unprofitable.

France arrests Basques before Spanish poll

BILBAO, May 26 (AFP). — Several militant Basque separatists were arrested today when French police swooped on Basque cities on the French side of the Pyrenees, well-informed Basque sources said here.

The sources said the police operation carried out in Saint Jean de Luz, Bayonne and Biarritz was designed to step up security ahead of the June 15 general election in Spain.

They said the hardline members of the separatist organisation ETA picked up today would be placed under house arrest in the east of France or in a Mediterranean area until the polling was completed.

ETA, the sources noted, has vowed to resume what it called the "armed struggle" during the election campaign.

Among those arrested, the sources said, were Villar Guruchaga, Martin Zagardía, Yoru Urrutigochea, Aya Zulaica -- all deported to the Ile d'Yeu, off the coast of Brittany, late last year by France.

Idi Amin orders British nationals to assemble at Kampala centre today

LONDON, May 26 (AFP). — President Idi Amin has ordered all British nationals in Uganda to assemble tomorrow at Kampala International Conference Centre, Radin Uganda, monitored here, has reported.

The radio said President Amin's security chief will then give a press conference about the Ugandan leader's planned visit to London next month for the Commonwealth premiers' conference.

Observers here believe Field Marshal Amin has called the meeting to put pressure on the British government to accept him at the talks.

President Amin's planned visit, coinciding with Queen Elizabeth's silver jubilee celebrations, has caused considerable embarrassment in Britain, with reports that Prime Minister James Callaghan is seeking ways of deterring him from making the trip.

The government is expected to tell parliament tomorrow what it intends to do if Field Marshal Amin insists on coming.

There was renewed hostility in political circles and the British press against Field Marshal Amin today.

The Daily Mail newspaper quoted Commonwealth Secretary General Sridath Rampal who said here yesterday that it was the duty of the host country to "ensure an environment propitious for the meeting and to guarantee the safety and freedom from embarrassment of all who come."

But he said he would be very surprised if President Amin made the journey, pointing out that he had not attended the two previous meetings in Canada and Jamaica.

The Daily Express again declared its total opposition to President Amin's visit and the Daily Telegraph said the Queen could not meet a "madman..." with "blood-drenched hands."

The Financial Times, however, referred to a statement in parliament recently that £125 had been spent on Ugandan flags for the conference, "just in case."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

- * TEL AVIV, May 26 (R). — Israel has complained to the United Nations of Egyptian violations of an agreement on troop and weapon strengths in the Sinai Desert and has demanded the immediate withdrawal of excess forces and equipment, army headquarters said last night. The army spokesman said the Israeli charges of Egyptian infringements of the interim agreement had been confirmed by a U.N. investigatory team. He said the official complaint listed three violations, two of which involved excess numbers of Egyptian soldiers in the zones affected by the agreement. The third case involved the positioning of 17 SAM-7 Strella missiles on the East Bank and one on the West Bank of the Suez Canal, the spokesman said.
- * STOCKHOLM, May 26 (R). — A Soviet civilian plane carrying 18 passengers and a crew of four was reported to have been hijacked today and later landed here after being intercepted by Swedish Air Force planes. A police spokesman said the plane, a twin-engine AN-24, had touched down at Aland Airport here at 18:15 GMT. About 15 minutes after the plane touched down, a police spokesman said that a person believed to have been the hijacker had surrendered to police at the airport. Eyewitnesses in the area were reported to have heard shooting in the vicinity after the Soviet plane landed, but the spokesman denied there had been any firing.
- * ISTANBUL, May 26 (R). — Two more people have been killed in Turkey in unabating political violence which has marred the campaign for next month's general elections. Police said the bullet-riddled body of a 35-year-old right-wing student was found in the suburbs of Istanbul last night. In the southeastern city of Gaziantep, a 22-year-old worker died in hospital yesterday after being stabbed in a fight over party leaflets, local officials said.
- * NEW YORK, May 26 (R). — A young New York man today scaled the sheer aluminium face of the World Trade Centre, the second tallest building in the world, George Willig, 28, using what appeared to be homemade climbing gear, clambered through a trapdoor on the roof of the 110-storey building, 3-1/2 hours after he began the 1,350 foot (411 metre) climb. Willig was immediately taken into police custody.
- * KUWAIT, May 26 (R). — A Kuwait daily newspaper said today that an agreement to provide Kuwait with gunboats would be signed by Defence and Interior Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah who is now on an official visit to Britain. Quoting what it termed as reliable sources the newspaper, Al Anba, said the agreement involving 10 well-equipped boats would be signed with the British Thornycroft Company.
- * KOLWEZI, Zaire, May 26 (R). — Six nuns and several children were abducted by rebel invaders now retreating towards the Angolan border, the Zairean News Agency AZAP said yesterday. The rebels, said to be former Katangese gendarmes who invaded the southern province of Shaba (formerly Katanga) two months ago, were believed to have taken the nuns and children as hostages so that the Zairean Air Force would not attack them, AZAP said.
- * DUBLIN, May 26 (R). — The Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, Mr. Liam Cosgrave, last night called a general election for June 16, and launched a three-week election campaign aimed at getting an unprecedented second successive term for an Irish coalition government.

Arab Horse Races

Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.
at the Royal Racing Club, Marka.
Admission 150 fil.